(d) and (e) Sikhs, irrespective of caste, are included in the minority list notified under Section 2(c) of the NCM Act, 1992.

**Economic and educational upliftment of minorities**

†1421. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the facilities including reservation provided by Government for economic and educational upliftment of minorities;

(b) whether there is any provision for keeping 'creamy layer" out of reservation;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when the same would be implemented; and

(d) the details of reasons for awarding scholarships to minorities on the basis of their caste certificates while the status of minority is judged on the basis of religion?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) In June, 2006 the Prime Minister's New 15 Programme for the Welfare of Minorities has been announced. The details of the schemes are available at website 'www.minorityaffairs.gov.in'. As of now, there is no reservation for minorities in Government employment except for those included in the list of OBCs. The concept of 'creamy layer' applies to them as in the scheme for reservation for OBCs.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Maulana Azad Educational Foundation, functioning under the Ministry of Minority Affairs, has a scheme for awarding scholarship to meritorious girl students, who have completed tenth standard, belonging to communities declared as minorities under the National Commission Minorities Act, 1992.

**Sachar Committee Report**

1422. SHRI S.S.AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether observations in the report on 'Social, Economic and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.